filed by the CBI in the Supreme Court of India in this connection has been admitted. The matter is, at present, subjudice.

Smuggling of Human Skulls

†2203. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that massive smuggling of human skulls is being done at Indo-Nepal border;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 88 human skulls were recovered at Patna junction last year in the month of June; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to check the smuggling of human skulls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Government of India has not received any report regarding smuggling of human skulls on the Indo-Nepal border.

(b) and (c) As Public Order and Police arc State subject, information/ details regarding such cases are maintained by the State Government concerned.

Political and Social violence in North-East

†2204. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for no decrease in political and social violence in North-East States inspite of heavy deployment of security forces there; and

(b) whether any foreign conspiracy and intrusion can be held responsible for this or any internal system is responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that there has been no decrease in violent activities in North East. Apart from Manipur and Tripura, the situation in other States has shown a distinct improvement in the recent past.

Continued violence in the North Eastern States can, however, be attributed to the fact that much of the militancy in the North East has degenerated into a cottage industry of killing, extortion and kidnappings with the sole aim of making money.

Pak ISI has also been actively involved in fomenting trouble in the North East.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.